

# NCNA HEADS AND TALES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

MOTTO— TO PROMOTE AND TO SERVE  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATICS

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Editor

Michael S. Turrini

Mailing Address

PO Box 4104  
Vallejo, California 94590-0410

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## 1988 NCNA OFFICERS

Robert Mish . . . . .	President
Ron Miller . . . . .	First Vice-President
Maxine Hopperstad . . . . .	Second Vice-President
Edward Sins . . . . .	Treasurer
Brain Kestner . . . . .	Secretary

DEADLINE FOR THIRTY-FIRST ISSUE . . . . . September 30

THE MINT DIRECTOR'S PRONOUNCEMENTS: President's Message

Who will harvest the wheat, who will make the batter, and who will bake the bread?

Your new president was elected to office on a platform to re-energize the NCNA. Our organization best serves the Northern California coin collector when it is

(1) Fostering numismatic growth and awareness in our numismatic communities. We can all profit from an increase in the number of coin collectors--more shared knowledge--more friends--more trading partners--and for our dealer friends, more customers.

(2) Coordinating the activities of member clubs to promote efficiency and cooperation.

(3) Keeping members informed of governmental and other criminal threats to the peaceful pursuit of our hobby. Today, the dangers have never been greater but there are things we can do both as individuals and as a group to protect ourselves.

By making the NCNA an effective organization we benefit ourselves. Right now we need volunteers for the following positions:

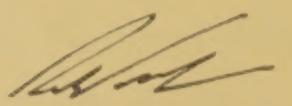
- (1) **Scholarship Chairperson** -- to develop and manage a student scholarship program for young numismatists.
- (2) **NCNA Ambassador** -- to visit member clubs and parallel organizations. To promote cooperation and mutual assistance.
- (3) **Membership Chairperson** -- to recruit new members and motivate others in doing the same.
- (4) **Facilities Coordinator** -- to investigate and report to the Board on possible new locations for our expanded annual show.
- (5) **Media Coordinator** -- media liaison and promoter to publicize and secure local press recognition of numismatic events, news which effects numismatics, and our viewpoints on this.
- (6) **Hospitality Assistants** -- to help make our annual coin show as hospitable as possible for our visiting out-of-town dealers and collectors.

Fortunately, our organization has the money to invest in these projects. But, we don't have the manpower. Most of our current activists have given their all for many years without new help. They are dedicated, but tired. It is time to pass the ball on to new blood.

Here is what you can do: First, volunteer for one of the open positions we need to fill. But, volunteer only if you are motivated. Neither guilt nor altruism need apply. Second, help us build membership. The more members NCNA has, the more activists will turn up among us. The more members we have, the more people we can keep informed.

Soon, each member will be receiving two new membership applications. If each of us signed up two new members (only \$2.00 each until 1989), we could triple the size of our organization.

We can all eat the bread.



Robert Mish  
President, NCNA

THE MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

My Friends,

A few days ago while I visited a stamp dealer friend of mine, he mentioned that he had lost interest in coins years ago and became solely involved with stamps, because he stated, "When you have an album page of Lincoln Cents filled, they're all the same, maybe only the date and the tiny mint mark change. It's nothing to look at something that's all alike".

You know he is right. All coins do look the same and the same last year and the same next year. In fact, such an opinion would be a strong argument to support design changes.

However, he, and most of the coin hobby, forget something which should be a dogma, an article of faith, in numismatics: the joy and reward of collecting coins is not in that all the holes are filled on an album page, but rather each coin, each denomination, has a story behind it.

It is easy to forget that numismatics is based upon one of the most mundane common objects, simply, money. Long before modern fiat money, the great silver and gold coinages of the ancients and times before us that are treasured so much by us today served that most basic monetary function, a medium of exchange.

The hobby and science of numismatics began before there were albums with pages and holes to fill or even before coins became a business. It began when individuals became fascinated with a coin, as to its country, design, year, and so forth--the whole story behind it--and then started to collect.

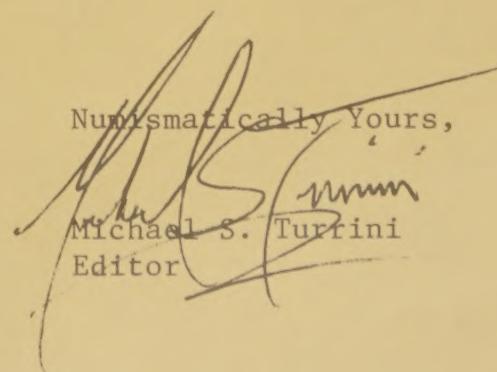
It is sad, very sad, that as the coin hobby has grown in the past decades, so much of it and so many of its hobbyists are still at and remain at the album page filled level.

As long as this attitude prevails, numismatics has only one other recourse to attract new adherents, the investment argument, and as long as that argument is promoted, numismatics will be a business, not a hobby.

Yes, my friend was right. Like so many of us in the coin hobby, he failed or refused to look beyond the album with its holes.

We fail to see that in coins is the whole course of history. We fail to learn that coins are the very stuff of time. We fail to allow our minds to grow with knowledge of the life and times coins were part of. We fail to allow anything other than the grade and price list to judge and to encourage our interest in coins, and in the end, we fail ourselves to enjoy most fully the hobby and and science of numismatics.

Best Wishes To All.

  
Numismatically Yours,  
Michael S. Turfini  
Editor

## GOLD MINER DIGGINGS: NCNA News and Happenings

### 1988 Coin Show and Exposition

Remains scheduled for September 15, 16, 17, and 18, 1988, Thursday through Sunday, at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco.

A fine international array of coin dealers is planned for what may be the final NCNA Coin Show and Exposition at this Hotel.

Your Editor has no information as to any educational events or youth activities. To clarify as some have inquired, Your Editor is not co-ordinating and arranging the publicity nor planning of speakers or such. For updated information as to this year's Coin Show and Exposition and its activities, contact: "Edward Sins, NCNA Treasurer, PO Box 5075, San Jose, California, 95150".

### August Board of Directors Meeting

Originally planned to be held at the August 7th Fremont Coin Show has been cancelled due to lack of suitable meeting room. As NCNA Heads and Tales goes to print, no information as to any alternate site or date has been received.

### Coin Show Directory

The latest Directory is included. All NCNAers are urged to retain and to refer to this Directory. Please support by attendance and drawing ticket purchases local coin club coin shows.

### 1988 Officer Election

During August or earlier September, NCNAers will receive their 1988 Election Ballot. Please Vote. Thanks.

### Coordinating Local Coin Shows

Ron Miller, NCNA First Vice-President, has volunteered to act as a clearinghouse and information person on local coin club coin shows within northern California. Coin Clubs are urged to contact him with their proposed or scheduled dates and learn if such conflicts with another coin show. The objective is with one person having updated information on various coin shows some of the conflicts and having to reschedule dates might be avoided.

Ron Miller may be reached at his coin shop, Fremont Coin Gallery, telephone number 415-792-1511.

BRANCH MINT REPORTS: Club Happenings

Have been receiving bulletins, newsletters, or news releases from these Coin Clubs:

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society  
Liberty Numismatic Society  
Fremont Coin Club  
Delta Coin Club  
Peninsula Coin Club  
Fresno Numismatic Society  
Napa Valley Coin Club  
Redwood Empire Coin Club  
Sacramento Valley Coin Club  
Solano Silver Round Club  
Livermore Valley Coin Club  
Reno Coin Club  
Alameda Coin Club  
Stanislaus County Coin Club  
Greater Houston Coin Club  
Gateway Coin Club  
Cupertino Coin Club  
Vallejo Numismatic Society  
Fairfield Coin Club  
San Francisco Coin Club  
Diablo Numismatic Society  
San Jose Coin Club  
Los Gatos Coin Club

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society 1988 Officers are: DAVID W. LANGE, President, HERB MILES, Vice-President, DON T. THRALL, Treasurer, and FRANK J. STAZZARINO, Secretary. PCNS' literary quarterly, PCNS Journal, is edited by the husband and wife team of DAVID and BECKY CIENIEWICZ. Recent PCNS meeting activities have been: January 27th, Numismatic Literature which had fourteen members sharing thirty-nine different numismatic books of all subjects and years, February 24th RICH WEBSTER, 'The Moneyers' Revolt', March 30th, JERRY SCHIMMEL, 'Latin American Tokens', April 27th, DON T. THRALL, 'East Africa Coinage', May 25th, LARRY REPETEAU, 'Rape of the Sabine Women', and June 25th, 73rd Anniversary Banquet. Beloved PCNS Past President OZZIE STOUT was bestowed at the recent CSNA Convention in San Jose the Krause Publication's coveted 'Numismatic Ambassador' award.

Liberty Numismatic Society At its May 3rd Meeting heard Vice-President GARY CLEMENT speak on 'A Brief History of Silver'. ED FULWIDER spoke at the June 7th Meeting on Minting Problems With Silver Eagles. The LNS meets on the First Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Millbrae Library, Library and Magnolia, Millbrae.

Fremont Coin Club Had several members contribute to a display during National Coin Week at the Fremont Bank; they were: STAN BARNES, DON BARSI, GLEN JACOBS, ROGER LYLES, RON MILLER, WENDY SCHOOK,

GARY SNYDER, and FRANK WIECZOREK. April 26th Meeting Show 'n Tell 's theme was My Favorite Token with DON BARSI, Bank Token, KEN BARR, Civil War Token, RON MILLER, Calaveras County Token, DOUG DANIELS, Aluminum 1892 Token, BILL BROMLEY, Reader's Digest Tokens, and ROGER LYLES, Seattle World's Fair Token.

Delta Coin Club Heard at its April 22nd Meeting JOEL ANDERSON on 'Foreign Coins'. The recent big DCC event was its May 13th, Friday the 13th, annual Monte Carlo Nite which Your Editor attended and enjoyed very much a fun-filled evening of legal gambling. The next big event is its annual July Picnic which Your Editor will attend. DCC is pleased to announce that its dates for 1988 Coin Show is October 15th and 16th and its 1989 Coin Show dates will be October 21st and 22nd.

Peninsula Coin Club Elected its 1988 Officers: BOB KEEGAN, President, AL LO, Vice-President, RICH DOUGLAS, Treasurer, and DON BARSI, Secretary. The PCC Annual Coin Show has been set for November 13, 1988. Recent PCC Meeting Themes have been: April 11th, Numismatic Error, May 9th, Emergency Coins, and June 13th, Odd Denominations. The mailing address for the PCC is: "PO Box 60484, Palo Alto, California, 94306-0484".

Fresno Numismatic Society Had at its April 12th DALE HEWLITT showing slides on United States Commemorative Coins, and the June 14th Meeting had PHIL PLETTNER talking on 'The Russian Platinum Coin Experience'. FNS announces that its annual two day Coin Show will be October 29th and 30th. Sad news from the FNS was that long-time member and supporter EUGENE A. COLBY passed away recently; as Fresno Numismatist Editor JOHN M. PETERS remarked, "GENE was a big supporter of the Society and our hobby . . . As we reflect on this loss of GENE, one thought will always come to mind: He forgot more about numismatics than most of us will ever know". A fine tribute.

Napa Valley Coin Club Held its Annual Pot-Luck Dinner on April 22nd, and Your Editor showed slides of the same event at the June 15th Meeting. GENE FEIRSTEIN, Editor of the Napa Valley Numismatic Notes, reported on the recent May 18th Silver Night that "a well-known member of the medical profession spoke on the desirability of owning precious metals if the economy goes down the tubes, then promptly won fourteen ounces of silver (with a little help from his other half). Nobody can say that he doesn't practice what he preaches!". Who is this "well-known" doctor and "his better half"? Why it was DOCTER HOWARD C. LONSDALE and his wife LORI LONSDALE. NVCC is planning another special theme night, Old Timers Night, for September 21st at which all the prizes in membership and the drawing will be only coins over one hundred years old. In the May Issue of the NVCC's monthly newsletter there was good Napa advise from Editor GENE FIERSTEIN, "Conserve Water--Drink Wine!".

Redwood Empire Coin Club Has sent only one newsletter. The April

6th Meeting was 'Other Hobbies Night'; however, no listing was given in the newsletter as to who shared what. The RECC has set its 1988 Coin Show date for November 13, 1988 at the Santa Rosa Veterans' Memorial Building. The RECC meets on the First Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Orchard Park Community Center, 1945 Piner Road and Marlowe Road, Santa Rosa. The Club's mailing address is: "PO Box 9013, Santa Rosa, California, 95405".

Sacramento Valley Coin Club Heard MITCH BLACET talk on Metal Detectors at its March 23rd Meeting. April 27th Meeting had RON LERCH give a program on 'Tokens and Other Exonumia', and the May 27th Meeting found PETE PRINCE on Coin Cleaning. SVCC's Numismatic Study Group, NSG, remains very active, having to date over twenty meetings; among recent topics of show 'n tell and discussion have been: Roman Coins, United States Mints, Ancient Coins, Half Cents, and the Coin World Trivia Quiz. SVCC will relocate its semi-annual Coin Shows to the Elk's Hall, west of I-5 at Florin Road and Riverside Blvd, Sacramento; this new site will be effective with the March 1989 Coin Show. The October 22 and 23, 1988 Coin Show will be held at Cal-Expo. SVCC is seeking competitive exhibits at its semi-annual Coin Shows, and interested exhibitors may write to: "JOHN GOMER, 3445 American River Drive, Suite D, Sacramento, California, 95864".

Solano Silver Round Club Remains Alive. This Club, the only one of its type in northern California dedicated to silver rounds, met the recent April 24th Vallejo Coin Show where its members heard at its Open Meeting RON KELICHER speak on 'Political Items'. The SSRC is interested in holding its Meetings and gathering at club coin shows. Coin Clubs that can provide at their coin shows a meeting location, preferably a small room, and are willing publicize the SSRC presence at their Coin Show are welcomed to contact SSRC President STAN TURRINI at "PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590". A small stipend will be presented to the host coin club.

Livermore Valley Coin Club Regrets to report that its long-time booster and most senior member RAPHA 'RA' BROWN passed away to bone cancer last April 23rd. The LVCC "will miss his vigor and his encouragement of numismatics as an enjoyable hobby." The April 12th Meeting had an interesting slide program on Russian Copper Coins, and the May 10th Meeting's slide program was on Counterfeit Detection. LVCC may be reached at: "PO Box 610, Livermore, California, 94550".

Reno Coin Club Writes that at its May 3rd Meeting J. A. MITCHELL was to present a program titled 'How To Give A Program And Have Fun Doing It'. Now there is a great program for any coin club. At the April 5th Meeting HOWDY HERZ and PETE PLATH gave a presentation on Nevada National Currency with "the highlight of the evening was the display of the 1882 'Brownback' Note on the First National Bank of Winnemucca which had just been

purchased by Harvey's Hotel/Casino for \$50,000.00". The March 1st Meeting heard NATE YOUELL talk on his 'Nate's Dates', which combined his two hobbies of date nails and silver dollars. Your Editor again commends Reno Coin Club Newsletter Editor DOUGLAS MCDONALD for his fine effort and work, the RCC's newsletter is an exemplary coin club publication.

Alameda Coin Club Heard ex-sailor MIKE STANLEY at its April 12th Meeting on Striking Club Medals. May 10th Meeting was 'Other Hobbies Night' with BETTY HOOKER, 'Betty Boop' collection, HALLIE KOONCE, British Commemoratives, MIKE NEICOFF, Stamps, and BILL KOONCE, Currency. The June 14th Meeting had STAN TURRINI present his slide illustrated program on Canadian Commemorative Dollars. The active ACC meets on the Second Tuesday at 7:30pm in CityCorp Bank, corner of Haight and Webster Streets, Alameda.

Stanislaus County Coin Club Mailed a copy of its June newsletter. The SCCC meets each Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 7:30pm in Maze Boulevard Christian Church, 725 Maze Blvd., Modesto. An interesting item was displayed at the May 25th Meeting, "a car key" by HOWARD WESLEY: "Seems one of the dealers who participated in our Coin Show totaled his car out on the way home from the Show and all he had left of the car was the key".

Greater Houston Coin Club Does a nice courtesy in its monthly newsletter, Double Shift: it lists the dates and name for other coin clubs "in our area". To encourage members participation at meetings, Vice-President CHARLES TEMPLETON announced in the May Double Shift that: "the door-prize/program rule that Club had a year ago" would be re-instituted. "What this means is that if you win a door-prize drawing, you will be expected to present a short (five minutes or so) program at the next Club meeting. That's not such a high price to pay for the neat door prizes . . . and these is a slight variation this year: you will not have to wait to your prize until after your program . . . will give you the prize the meeting it is won, and then you are on your honor to give a program". Nice Idea.

Gateway Coin Club Reminds everyone that its new meeting location is Ticor Title Insurance, 525 West 20th Street, Merced. CATHY HOFMANN it was announced at the April 21st Meeting had been honored for her display during National Coin Week at the local county library with requests to hold over her fine display and exhibit it at other local libraries.

Cupertino Coin Club Writes that its 1988-1989 Officers are: KEN BARR, President, KATHERINE RAY, Vice-President, MICHAEL BAER, Junior Vice-President, JEAN PRITCHETT, Recording Secretary, WALT MERTENS, Corresponding Secretary, and RON ISHIZAKI, Treasurer. April 1st Meeting was CCC's Annual Birthday Nite. May 5th Meeting had DAVID CIENIEWICZ talk on United States Patterns. CCC members won the majority of Exhibit Awards at the

recent May CSNA Convention in San Jose; they are: GARY ACQUISTAPACE, Best of Show, Eisenhower Dollar; AL LO, Best of Exonumia, Rulers of Hawaii, GARY ACQUISTAPACE, First Award, Silver Pesos of Mexico, ED SINS, Second Award, Royal Mints of the Mexican War of Independence, AL LO, First Award, King Kalakaua's Coins, WALLY WALLAKER, Participation Award, Kolit Wheel, TOMMY CAROLAN, Junior First Award, Cupertino Coin Show Medals, KELLY CAROLAN, Junior Second Award, 1987 Constitution Dollar, and VIRGINIA HALL, Invitational Award, 1965 French Specimen Set. Congratulations To All.

Vallejo Numismatic Society Heard RON MILLER at its May 4th Meeting speak on California Tokens. April 6th Meeting was the VNS's annual 'Other Hobbies Nite' which had JAN HENKE, Sturgeon Fishing with photos to prove his fish stories plus smoked sturgeon to eat, DR. HOWARD LONSDALE, Ranch Life, VICKIE ALLISON, Royal Family Timbles, MIKE STANLEY, Balls Collection, and STAN TURRINI, Paper Collectables of Vallejo. The June 1st Meeting was the Annual Al Renn Memorial Auction which grossed \$156.00 total for youth numismatics. The 18th Annual Vallejo Coin Show is scheduled for April 30, 1989, Sunday, hours 9:00am to 5:00pm, at Dan Foley Cultural Center, Dan Foley Park, Tuolumne Street, Vallejo. A full day of bourse, activities, drawing, and more is planned. For information of the VNS or its 1989 Vallejo Coin Show, write to: "Vallejo Coin Club, PO Box 4281, Vallejo, California, 94590".

Fairfield Coin Club Heard DAVID W. LANGE, at its March 23rd Meeting with a slide illustrated talk on 'United States Coinage for the Philippines'. April 27th Meeting had 'Numismatic Hobby Nite' with MOSES REIS, Silver Rounds, DENNIS DUNCAN, World-wide Banknotes, STAN TURRINI, Canadian Commemorative Dollars, and JAN HENKE, Half Dollars. May 25th was the FCC's annual May Pot-Luck Dinner at which RON MILLER spoke on United States Type Coins. The drawing had ten, yes ten, 1/10 ounce gold Eagles with three each being won by STAN TURRINI and JAN HENKE.

San Francisco Coin Club Has heard three fine speakers recently: STEVE SEELIG, April 26th, 'Coins of Luxembourg', TOM KELLY, May 24th, 'California Fractional Gold', and MOSES REIS, June 28th, 'Collecting Silver Rounds'.

Diablo Numismatic Society Announces that its 27th Annual Diablo Coin Show will be December 11, 1988, Sunday, 9:00am to 4:00pm, at a new site, the Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord. Bourse Coordinator is MIKE STANLEY, and he may be reached at: "2107 Gill Drive, Concord, 94520". April 21st was 'Other Hobbies Night' with STAN TURRINI winning First Place for his informative talk and extensive display on Autographs and HART FAIRCLOUGH taking Second Place for his colorful and huge collection of old and recent Football Game Ticket Stubs. May 19th Meeting had RAY COSTA, a stamp authority, speak on the Great White Fleet.

San Jose Coin Club Elected its 1988 Officers; they are: TIM ARCHER, President, RON MILLER, Vice-President, MARTHA SANFORD, Recording Secretary, SALLY JOHNSON, Corresponding Secretary, and WALLY WALLAKER, Treasurer. SJCC reminds everyone that its new Meeting date and site are: Second Wednesday at the American Legion Hall, Post 318, 1504 Minnesota, San Jose. The late ROY HILL is the newest inductee into the SJCC Hall of Fame. The May 11th Meeting LARRY BENSON speak on 'Coin Storage': "LARRY presented the results of an experiment in which he purchased a roll of 1974 brilliant uncirculated Lincoln Cents and stored the coins individually on a window sill in sunlight. Each coin was stored in a different type of coin holder, representing the most popular types currently in use. The results were very interesting, but even more so was the application of scientific test techniques to our hobby. We all thank you, LARRY, for sharing the results of this innovative experiment with us".

Los Gatos Coin Club Will issue a medal for its 25th Silver Anniversary in October 1988. The obverse will feature a view of Main Street, Los Gatos, as based on a nineteen century pen-and-ink drawing. The medals will be in silver. The issue of silver medals will be limited to the number subscribed in pre-sale or fifty, whichever is greater, and the silver medals will sell for \$30.00 each. Orders may be sent to: "ED SINS, Treasurer, Los Gatos Coin Club, PO Box 5075, San Jose, California, 95150".